

BOOK REVIEWS

The journal does not review all books sent by the publishers. New books received are listed in the Advertising Section. Prices quoted are those given by the publishers.

ABDOMINAL RADIOLOGY—Editor: James J. McCort, MD; Authors: James J. McCort, MD; Robert E. Mindelzun, MD; Robert G. Filpi, MD, and Charles Rennell, MD. The Williams & Wilkins Company, 428 E. Preston St., Baltimore, MD (21202), 1981. 344 pages, \$49.50.

The stated purpose of this modest-sized book is to provide radiologists and attending physicians with a step-by-step evaluation of abdominal radiographs in regard to technique, normal anatomy and a host of abnormal radiographic findings. Each chapter focuses on specific topics such as technique, peritoneal and extraperitoneal anatomy, abdominal calcifications, normal and abnormal fluid and gas collection, and abdominal masses. The book is aimed at radiologists, surgeons, internists, family practitioners and emergency room physicians. The text mainly discusses plain abdominal radiographs with introduction of contrast studies, computerized tomography and ultrasound where appropriate to illustrate or confirm findings.

The aims of the authors are well met. The book contains a superb collection of well-reproduced radiographs illustrating an amazing number of entities. In addition, there are many fine drawings and illustrations that are quite useful to explain pertinent anatomy and pathologic conditions. The references provided with each chapter are extensive and appear to contain the key references in the field. This book would provide an excellent start for a literature search for many radiologic findings. The relatively low cost (for a finely illustrated radiology text) is commendable.

The only drawback to the text is the necessarily limited discussion of many topics. The book is ideal for a radiology resident or nonradiologist who needs to be well versed in the technique and interpretation of abdominal radiographs. It is not suited for an experienced radiologist who needs an in-depth reference work. It would be quite useful as a rapid, albeit somewhat limited, guide for looking up a specific point. The references could then be consulted for a more detailed topic discussion. The book also would be an excellent guide for teaching purposes.

In summary, this book can easily be highly recommended as a textbook for radiology residents, and as a reference book for attending physicians who must deal with acute abdominal conditions. Experienced radiologists would also find it useful as a handy quick guide with respect to abdominal anatomy and pathology.

TIM B. HUNTER, MD
*Associate Professor of Radiology
Section Chief, Gastrointestinal Radiology
University of Arizona Health Sciences Center
Tucson*

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BONE METASTASIS—Volume Five in the series: **METASTASIS**—Edited by Leonard Weiss, ScD, MD, PhD, Department of Experimental Pathology, Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, New York; and Harvey A. Gilbert, MD, Department of Radiation Therapy, Southern California Permanente Medical Group, Los Angeles. G. K. Hall Medical Publishers, 70 Lincoln Street, Boston (02111), 1981. 512 pages, \$55.00.

Bone Metastasis, edited by Weiss and Gilbert, is a wide-ranging work with a large group of contributors. Ordinarily this would mean a lot of redundancy, but not so in this case. Very few things are repeated, yet each chapter can stand alone as an informative article.

The entire spectrum of bone metastasis is covered,

including an historical piece, the 1956 Caldwell Lecture by Batson, which has certainly stood the test of time. Much of the book is really in the realm of basic science—anatomical pathways, physiologic and biochemical aspects and laboratory studies. Although these are welcome to researchers in this field, they will not be of much interest to most practicing physicians or residents.

The chapters dealing with the clinical approach to bone metastasis were especially well written and are very readable. Chapter 10, "The Radiologist and the Diagnosis of Bone Metastases" by Schreiber, and Chapter 11, "The Radionuclide Scan in Bone Metastasis" by Low, should be required reading for all radiologists.

The chapter on computed tomographic (CT) scans of bone and soft tissue metastases is very good but, because of the rapidly evolving field of CT, some of the more recent advances have not been mentioned. Also, no mention is made of nuclear magnetic resonance, which promises to be important in tumor and metastasis imaging. Magnification radiology, a very useful imaging modality in metastatic bone disease, is not mentioned either.

Perhaps more should have been said about the proper workup of a patient with bone metastasis—that is, the utility, or lack of utility, of skeletal surveys as opposed to radionuclide scans. When should workups be augmented with CT scans and tomograms? These things were, indeed, briefly mentioned, but not emphasized. This can be a very confusing and, for a patient or bill-payer, costly maze.

These minor criticisms should not hide the fact that this is an excellent work with each chapter containing a complete bibliography and with a full index at the end of the volume. It contains the latest in diagnostic workup, orthopedic advances and therapy. It should be well received by all in this field of medicine.

CLYDE HELMS, MD
*Assistant Professor
Department of Radiology
University of California, San Francisco*

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OBSTETRIC ULTRASOUND: APPLICATIONS AND PRINCIPLES—Edited by W. S. Van Bergen, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Springfield, Illinois. Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, Inc., Health Sciences Division, 2727 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, CA (94025), 1980. 157 pages, \$19.95.

This book is clearly written and reduces complex concepts to simple terms. Its contributors include several pioneers and leaders in the field of obstetrical ultrasonography. It is particularly useful to students, residents and practitioners who require a general understanding of the field and knowledge of the usefulness and limitations of the modality. In this sense it has real value and fulfills a genuine need. The chapters on the history of ultrasound, basic principles of diagnostic ultrasound, and the state of knowledge pertaining to safety are interesting and informative.

Since the book is a general overview and not a detailed text, readers should not expect to learn to become proficient in the performance and interpretation of obstetrical ultrasound by studying it. Nor can it be used

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as a reference text for the field. In the preface the senior author addressed the need for a short, easily interpreted book designed specifically for practitioners. I believe he has succeeded in producing such a book.

MORTON A. STENCHEVER, MD
Professor and Chairman
Obstetrics and Gynecology
University of Washington School of Medicine
Seattle

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CANCER OF THE HEAD AND NECK—Edited by James Y. Suen, MD, and Eugene N. Myers, MD. Churchill Livingstone Inc., 19 West 44th St., New York, NY (10036). 1981, 905 pages, \$89.00.

This textbook, edited by Drs. Suen and Myers, is the most comprehensive available pertaining to head and neck cancer. The editors have compiled well-integrated chapters by more than 50 authors who are nationally recognized experts in their respective fields.

Although both of the editors are head and neck surgeons, the emphasis of the book is directed toward the importance of team management of patients with head and neck cancer. To this end, they have enlisted authors who are experts in several allied medical specialties including radiation oncology, neurosurgery, plastic surgery, oral surgery, restorative dentistry, medical oncology, pathology, anesthesia, ophthalmology and nursing.

In spite of the many contributors, there is very little overlap of subject matter. The text comprehensively discusses topics such as nutritional management, pain control, chemotherapy and immunotherapy, nursing care, maxillofacial rehabilitation and dental considerations in such patients. Unfortunately, the book had apparently gone to press before the contribution and impact of the computerized tomographic (CT) scan and myocutaneous flaps had been recognized; they are discussed in only a limited fashion.

This book will be a useful adjunct to any clinician treating patients with head and neck cancer regardless of specialty. Needless to say, it would be an important resource during residency training for head and neck surgeons, radiation therapists and medical oncologists.

THOMAS C. CALCATERRA, MD
Professor of Surgery
Head and Neck (Otolaryngology)
UCLA School of Medicine
Los Angeles

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ANDREWS' DISEASES OF THE SKIN: CLINICAL DERMATOLOGY—Seventh Edition—Anthony N. Domonkos, MD; Harry L. Arnold, Jr, MD, and Richard B. Odom, MD. W.B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia, PA (19105). 1982. 1,108 pages, 1,277 illustrations, \$58.00 U.S., \$69.60, Canada.

This is the seventh edition of a textbook that first appeared in 1930, thus continuing a 50-year tradition. A great deal of time and care has been put into this last edition bringing it up to date in all respects. All of the references have been modernized and seem to be selective.

The textbook is not meant to be an exhaustive treatise on all problems in dermatology but more a good reference book for practicing dermatologists and an excellent orientation textbook for residents in dermatology. The book is a reasonable one to suggest to medical students who plan to have a future interest in dermatology although they may not pursue the specialty. It is a very useful book to have on the shelf for referral to general dermatologic problems that one might have in a practice other than dermatology. The sections on therapy are carefully considered and represent the most modern methods of management of dermatologic disease. The photographs are very good although there would have

been some advantage to at least a few pages of color photographs which the text does not have.

The *Andrews' Diseases of the Skin* has always been a popular dermatologic textbook and with this excellent revision will continue to be.

RICHARD B. STOUGHTON, MD
Professor and Chief
Division of Dermatology
University of California, San Diego,
School of Medicine
San Diego

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PROGRESS IN PERINATAL NEUROLOGY—Volume 1—Edited by Rowena Korobkin, MD, Children's Hospital Medical Center, Oakland; and Christian Guilleminault, MD, Stanford Sleep Disorders Clinic and Research Center, Stanford University School of Medicine. Williams & Wilkins, 428 East Preston Street, Baltimore, MD (21202). 1981. 238 pages, \$35.00.

The contents of this volume accurately reflect its title; it is an excellent review of the current state of the art in one of the exciting new areas of neurology—neonatal brain disorders. The authors are all experts in their respective fields. They present well-written and succinct reviews of clinical disorders affecting the nervous system in newborn infants, including viral infections, respiratory disorders and anoxia. The chapters on neuroradiology, electroencephalography and evoked responses are particularly well done. Some newer topics are reviewed that are rarely presented in other volumes—for example, infantile hemiplegia and disorders of sucking and swallowing.

Obstetricians, perinatologists, neonatologists and pediatric neurologists will find this book a welcome addition to their library.

PEGGY C. FERRY, MD
Head, Section of Child Neurology
University of Arizona
Health Sciences Center
Tucson

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GENERAL UROLOGY—Tenth Edition—Donald R. Smith, MD, Professor of Urology, Emeritus, University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine; Visiting Professor of Urology, University of Ain Shams, University of Cairo. Lange Medical Publications, Drawer L, Los Altos, CA (94022). 1981. 598 pages, \$19.50 (paperback).

It is a pleasure again to review this excellent book on general urology. Donald Smith, distinguished emeritus professor from the University of California, San Francisco, has once again brought his comprehensive and excellent text up to date. He has put a complete view of modern urology into a valuable and useful paperback edition which sells for only \$19.50. It is a worthy sequel to the now out-of-print book *The Principles and Practice of Urology*, written by his teacher Dr. Frank Hinman, Sr. I tell students at UCLA that if they know everything in this valuable volume, they will know more than most professors of urology.

One of the best things about this book is that Smith, who presented the first edition in 1957, has continued to enlarge it and update information. The chapters are brought into modern perspective. Particularly appealing is the chapter about kidney transplantation by Oscar Salvatierra. Also a number of important chapters have been assigned to Professor Emil Tanago, Smith's successor as professor at the University of California, San Francisco.

The book should appeal and be particularly useful to medical students and residents who desire a quick, reliable and thorough reference in urology.

WILLARD E. GOODWIN, MD
Professor, Urology Division
Department of Surgery
UCLA School of Medicine
Los Angeles